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13 April 1970

MEMORANDUM FOR: Department of Defense Member, CIRIS Committee

SUBJECT : Implementation of Agreement by NSA to Provide Information for CIRIS-70

1. As a member of the CIRIS Committee Working Group which dealt with the manner by which NSA would comply with the data call for CIRIS-70, you are aware of the conclusions unanimously agreed to by our Working Group and approved by the National Intelligence Resources Board. These conclusions included acceptance of the NSA proposal to provide "such machine runs of the approved program as they (i.e., NIRB Staff) require," and to "provide on specific request appropriate changes that would produce acceptably accurate data updates" (i.e. of prior NSA Submits in order to attempt extrapolations for CIRIS-70).

2. The NSA offer was made in lieu of NSA being required to fill out the forms 2812 and 2812(a) (DD) for CIRIS-70, which are being completed by the other intelligence program managers. The CIRIS Committee and NIRB Staff agreed in return to fill out these forms for the CCP using information derivable from the machine runs to be furnished by NSA.

3. The report of the CIRIS Committee was dated 3 February 1970 and was approved by NIRB on 20 February 1970. On 10 March 1970, a meeting was held at NSA specifically to make arrangements for the receipt and use of NSA's machine-compiled data. The meeting involved detailed discussion of the contents of the NSA tapes and their correct interpretation. The Chairman, CIRIS Committee requested the NSA Representative, [ ] to obtain and deliver as quickly as possible a set of these tapes and the necessary related operating instructions for running them on the CIRIS computer. The NSA Representative gave us to understand that he accepted this request and would complete in a relatively short time.

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4. On 20 March 1970, the CIRIS Committee reconvened to discuss the NSA Task Force proposal for CIRIS-71. In the course of that discussion, the Chairman, CIRIS Committee and the Defense Member of the CIRIS Committee repeated the request that NSA machine runs and operating instructions be provided as quickly as possible. The NSA Representative, [ ] stated that he had hoped to bring them to that meeting, but had been promised them within a day or two. 25X1

5. Weekly since 20 March, the Chairman, CIRIS Committee has contacted the NSA Representative by telephone and repeated this request. In each instance the response has been an apology for the continuing delay and a reassurance that the NSA Representative expected to receive and forward the materials shortly. The most recent contact was a telephone call initiated by an assistant to the NSA Representative on 9 April to report that he was aware that he had made a previous commitment to try to provide the material by 10 April. He said that he was now informed by others in NSA that there were a number of higher priority tasks for the NSA computers, and he was unable to give me any firm date as to when our request would be fulfilled. He continued to hope the job would be done soon. It seemed evident to me that the matter was not within his control.

6. As Director of DOD CIRIS Activities and CDIP Review Coordinator, you have advised me that you are counting on the availability of CIRIS-70 data to support CDIP program review. This is possible only if the CIRIS-70 data are obtained and processed in a timely manner. Since the NSA data are non-compatible with the existing CIRIS formats, the CIRIS Staff needs adequate time and effective assistance from NSA to reformat and recompile the data available from NSA machine runs. In order to attack these problems, our request was made for

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the NSA tapes based on the data now existing in NSA (i.e., prior to the preparation of the data now being compiled for the CY-70 POM and program cycle). Since this information is already available, it does not require any further data collection effort by NSA. All it requires is that we be provided with an exact copy of their existing tapes and existing operating instructions. (By "exact copy" I mean that the existing tapes should not be edited or changed from the way in which they were prepared for use by NSA management, except that in this instance and pending decision by the DASD(I) office on the policy issue the subdivisions of NSA Headquarters shown by those tapes may be recombined into figures for NSA Headquarters as a whole.) On the basis of the experience which we hope to gain in reorganizing the NSA tape information according to CIRIS categories we have hoped to be ready to handle promptly the information which NSA is committed (under the NIRB decision) to provide later this spring relative to CIRIS-70 and the CY-70 program cycle.

7. My present belief is that the NSA Representative, [ ] has 25X1 in fact attempted insofar as he could to provide for us the information agreed to by NSA and approved by NIRB. For reasons unknown to me and internal to NSA, it now appears that the NSA Representative is not able to furnish these materials and to fulfill that commitment. This memorandum is to request that you take such action within DASD(I) as may be appropriate in this matter. Please advise me as to whether you believe this should again be placed on the NIRB agenda for action by that body.

[ ]  
Chairman, CIRIS Committee

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